**COMPETITIVE EATING NEWSFLASH**

**Man Eats 187 Oysters in Three Minutes**

The official world oyster eating record has been smashed out of sight in Northern Ireland. Norwegian Rune Naeri managed to down 187 in three minutes - swallowing more than one oyster a second - at the annual Hillsborough Oyster Festival in County Down. Before the record had stood at 97 eaten in three minutes. Officials from the Guinness Book of Records were on hand to authenticate Rune’s feat. After setting the new record, Mr Naeri said he felt ‘fine, wonderful’, and proceeded to polish off a few pints of Guinness, which he said were the perfect antidote to a belly full of oysters.

Looking forward to a late dinner he said: “I think I’ll probably have something fishy.” Belfast man Jim Glackin, who beat the previous world record by eating 100 oysters during an unofficial practice run earlier this week, failed to keep up with the Norwegian. Despite managing to scoff 168 oysters he trailed in fourth against the international competition.

**Lopez Wedding Reportedly Off After Voodoo Session**

Jennifer Lopez is said to have called off her wedding to Ben Affleck after she visited a voodoo fortune-teller. The actress had earlier said the ceremony had been put back because of fears of a media scrum. According to The Sun, Lopez cancelled after a two-hour session with voodoo psychic Merle Gonzalez. The newspaper says it’s not clear what Gonzalez told her. Gonzalez is said to practise an ancient form of voodoo called Santeria, meaning the Way of the Saints. It involves animal sacrifices and followers engage in chanting, possession and long trances. Gonzalez claims to be able to predict the future and 33-year-old Lopez is said to be a regular visitor to her Los Angeles home. Gonzalez refused to say if she had advised J-Lo not to get married. “I am involved in Santeria and yes, I am friends with Jennifer Lopez. But I cannot discuss my relationship with her.” It’s reported that Lopez and Affleck were due to tie the knot at a small Catholic church in Santa Barbara, California, on Sunday.

**Teenager Gets Stuck in Washing Machine**

A 5’10” teenager who dropped his keys in a washing machine and climbed in to retrieve them has been freed by a fire crew. The 15-year-old Norwegian boy, from Baerum near Oslo, had been curled up in the drum for more than an hour when firefighters were alerted. Stein Guriby, of the Askerve and Baerum Fire Department, said the large washing machine had a horizontal drum that was just big enough for him to climb into. Guriby said that when firefighters got there, the boy, whose name has not been released, was getting desperate. “We had to do something,” he added. The firefighters tried everything they could think of, without success, until they tried lubricating the boy with laundry detergent. Then they moved him around until he could slip out of the drum. They said the teenager emerged uninjured.

**“Drunken” CDs Sound Different, Says Scientist**

A Melbourne scientist says dipping CDs in beer gives them a different sound. Cameron Jones’ discovered that fungus growing on the beer residue gave a different pitch and acted as an “optical biocomputer”. The New Scientist says Mr. Jones is a mathematician with a record of published research and also the owner of a nightclub and bar in Melbourne. He said: “I often change CDs when my hands are wet with beer. One night I must have changed the CDs, touched the data surface, then left them for use on another night.” The following week, he put on the CD and found it wouldn’t play properly because fungus had grown on it. The fungus hadn’t ruined the disc—the original audio was still there—but it would sometimes change in pitch and there were small staccato noises in the background. No damage has reportedly been done to his discs or players, but he warns that the technique does crash CD players on computers because the software cannot cope.

**Bobby Sue’s Country Music**

**Lyrics of the Week**

“I’m going to the big D and don’t mean Dallas. I got the Jeep. She got the palace.”

“Four on the Floor and a Fifth Under the Seat”

“Red necks, white socks and blue ribbon beer”
FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 15—19, 2003

SUBMIT
Got something to say, buddy?
Contact Bryan & Chris at news@leverett.harvard.edu
by Friday evening for publication in next week’s issue

Man Jailed For Starting Fire to Avoid Sex
A man who tried to set fire to his home to avoid having sex with his wife has been jailed for two years. Svetin Gulisija, 26, from Seget in Croatia, admitted starting a fire in woods just behind his house because he was too tired for sex with his wife. The couple had to be evacuated as firefighters tried to bring the blaze under control. The damage was later estimated to be around £15,000.

Senior Class Marshal Elections!
Passport size photograph and nomination sheet with signatures due Thursday, 9/18 or Friday, 9/19 between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM to the 6th floor at 124 Mount Auburn Street (across from Harvard Square Post Office). First round of voting will be September 23 - 25. Final round of voting will be September 30 - October 2. Questions? Call the Harvard Alumni Association at 495-2555.

Golden Nuggets
TIDBITS OF WISDOM FROM BRYAN’S FAVORITE SITCOM
Blanche: Rose, be sure to dress youthfully.
Rose: What for?
Sophia: You’re old!!

Man Named Clifford
A woman in Germany has been driven out of her marital bed by a jealous pet monkey. The 45-year-old woman, named only as Claudia S., said she could no longer sleep with her husband, Bernd, after their pet chimp monkey, Buddy, threw her out. Claudia said: “I had to move out of the way otherwise he would pull on my hair. I can’t even get into the bed anymore as he gets jealous.” She said they had tried to lock the monkey out of the room “but that only lasts an hour before Buddy starts screeching and wakes the whole neighbourhood up”. She added now there was nothing for it, but to sleep in the spare room

Pregnant Woman Sells Bump as Advertising Space
A pregnant woman has earned £250 by selling her “bump” as an advertising billboard for the day. Zoe Ellis, 28, received the money for walking around London with the advert for Microlabies painted on her stomach. Toy manufacturer Tony rented her bump for the day to promote their latest product. Zoe, who is eight months pregnant, said she was proud to host the advert. “I think this is a really fun idea, and I’m happy to show off my new figure.” Tony is now looking to recruit 100 expectant London mums to follow in Zoe’s footsteps before expanding the idea nationwide if the campaign is successful.